CLAIMS

1. A reinforcing bar coupler, comprising:

a cover unit having a circular hole therein and comprising two or more pieces to cover a circumference of a
5   reinforcing bar, with outer surfaces of the pieces being inclined in the same direction to form a tapered surface, and an annular groove being provided on an inner surface of each of the pieces so that an annular rib of the reinforcing bar is seated in the annular groove; and

10   a locking bushing having a shape of a pipe, the pipe having on an inner surface thereof a tapered surface to correspond to the tapered surface of the cover unit, the locking bushing compressing the cover unit inwards.

2. The reinforcing bar coupler according to claim 1,
15   wherein

the cover unit comprises a pair of pieces each having a semi-circular cross-section, with outer surfaces of the pieces being inclined in the same direction to form a tapered surface, and

20   the locking bushing has a shape of a pipe having a circular cross-section, with an inner surface of the pipe being formed to be in close contact with the tapered surface of the cover unit.

3. The reinforcing bar coupler according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the cover unit comprises:

a lateral groove provided on an inner surface of the cover unit in a lengthwise direction thereof so that a
5   lateral rib is seated in the lateral groove.

4. The reinforcing bar coupler according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the locking bushing comprises a pair of locking bushings to compress both ends of the cover unit which is installed to cover the reinforcing bar.

10   5. A bar coupling method, comprising:

placing ends of reinforcing bars so that the ends of the reinforcing bars are butted on each other;

placing two or more pieces each having a tapered surface to surround the ends of the reinforcing bars; and
15   fitting locking bushings in one direction through a drive fitting method so that tapered surfaces provided on inner surfaces of the locking bushings come into close contact with the tapered surfaces of the pieces.